

D. REMARKS

Reconsideration and allowance are requested in view of the foregoing amendments and the following remarks. Upon entry of this Reply, claims 1-9 will be pending in the present application, with claims 10-12 having been canceled herein without prejudice to the claimed subject matter.

Specification

The Specification was objected to because of a missing description of Fig. 4 in the "Brief Description of the Drawings" section. Applicant has herein amended the Specification to include such a description.

Claim Objections

Claims 11 and 12 were objected to as having extraneous text. Claims 11 and 12 have been canceled herein. Claim 5 was objected to as needing the character "a" in front of "sensing device." Applicant has herein amended claim 5 to include such a character.

35 U.S.C. §101 Rejections

Claims 10-12 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 101 as being directed to non-statutory subject matter. Applicant has herein canceled claims 10-12.

35 U.S.C. §112 Rejections

Claims 5-9 and 10 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph. Applicant has herein canceled claim 10.

Claim 6 was rejected because the term "the action" did not have proper

antecedent basis; claim 7 because the term “the projected area” did not have proper antecedent basis; and claims 8 and 9 because the term “the control characteristic” did not have proper antecedent basis. Applicant has herein amended claims 6-9 to provide antecedent bases for the terms.

Claim 5 was rejected because the Office determined that the term “matching the interference pattern” was unclear. Claim 5 was also rejected because the Office determined that “the field” and how “the object dwells or moves in the field” were indefinite. Applicant has herein amended claim 5 to address these rejections.

Claim 6 was rejected because the Office determined that the terms “the functionality,” “regenerating the image of the template,” “represent in some manner,” “[what action],” and “repeating steps a-c” were indefinite. Applicant has herein amended claim 6 to address these rejections. Also, claims 8 and 9 were rejected because the Office determined that the term “the control characteristic” was indefinite. Applicant has herein amended claims 8 and 9 to include antecedent basis for the term.

35 U.S.C. §102 Rejections

Claims 6-12 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,650,318 to Arnon (“Arnon”). Applicant has herein canceled claims 10-12 and has amended independent claim 6. Applicant submits that claim 6, as amended, is not anticipated by Arnon. For example, Applicant submits that Arnon does not teach or suggest, among other things, “regenerating the original holographic template image in response to the action by the user.” Rather, the data input device 10 that is holographically generated in Arnon is static and is not changed, or regenerated, in

response to a user action. See Arnon, col. 7, lines 14-17.

Based on the foregoing, Applicant submits that Arnon does not anticipate independent claim 6. Applicant submits that dependent claims 7-9 are allowable at least by virtue of their dependency on independent claim 6 which, as Applicant describes hereinabove, is patentable over the cited art.

35 U.S.C. §103 Rejections

Claims 1-5 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Arnon in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,710,770 to Tomasi et al. ("Tomasi"). Applicant has herein amended independent claims 1 and 5. Applicant submits that neither Arnon nor Tomasi, either alone or in combination, teach or suggest all of the limitations of independent claims 1 and 5, as amended. For example, Applicant submits that neither Arnon nor Tomasi, either alone or in combination, teach or suggest, among other things, "a modified holographic image that represents a change in the original holographic image that results from an object interacting with the original holographic image" as claimed in claim 1. Also, Applicant submits that neither Arnon nor Tomasi, either alone or in combination, teach or suggest, among other things, "the holographic image [is modified] based on the position of the object and an interaction of the object with the holographic image" as claimed in claim 5. Rather, as discussed hereinabove, the data input device 10 that is holographically generated in Arnon is static and is not modified in response to a user action. See Arnon, col. 7, lines 14-17. Also, the virtual input device 50, 50' and 50" of Tomasi "is passive" and is not "sensitive to a touch by a finger or a stylus" and, as such, is static. See Tomasi, col. 5, lines 55-63.

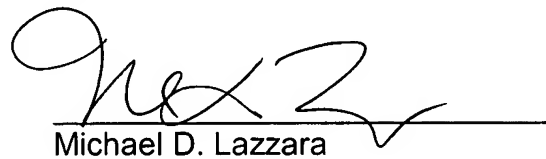
Based on the foregoing, Applicant submits that independent claims 1 and 5 are not obvious in view of Arnon or Tomasi, either alone or in combination. Applicant submits that dependent claims 2-4 are allowable at least by virtue of their dependency on independent claim 1 which, as Applicant describes hereinabove, is patentable over the cited art.

For at least the foregoing reasons, Applicant submits that the pending claims are allowable and respectfully request reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection of claims 1-9.

F. CONCLUSION

Applicant submits that the present application is in condition for allowance and respectfully request favorable action in the form of a Notice of Allowance. Should the Examiner believe that this application is in condition for disposition other than allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below in order to address the Examiner's concerns.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'M. Lazzara', is written over a horizontal line.

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